



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 14, 2008

Christian Boedding
Assistant General Manager
Costco Wholesale Corporation
311 Daniel Webster Highway
Nashua, NH 03060

**URGENT LEGAL MATTER
REQUIRES PROMPT RESPONSE**

Re: Clean Air Act Reporting Requirement
Docket No. AAA-08-0017

Dear Mr. Boedding:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is evaluating whether the Costco Wholesale Corporation (Costco) facility located at 311 Daniel Webster Highway in Nashua, New Hampshire is in compliance with applicable state and federal requirements under the Clean Air Act (the Act). Costco owns and/or operates a facility subject to Section 608 of the Act, which regulates emissions of refrigerants that damage the stratospheric ozone layer. Specifically, this facility is subject to the Recycling and Emissions Reduction regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F (Subpart F).

EPA issues this Reporting Requirement under the authority of Section 114 (a)(1) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414. Within 30 days of receiving this Reporting Requirement, Costco shall submit the information described below to:

Susan Studlien, Director
Office of Environmental Stewardship
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
One Congress St, Suite 1100
Boston, Massachusetts 02114
Attn: Abdi Mohamoud (SEA)

Provide answers to each of the items in numbered paragraphs, if possible in an electronic spreadsheet or word document formatted on a CD-ROM. Specific regulatory terms used in this Reporting Requirement shall be defined as set forth in the Act and in Subpart F.

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1. Provide a list of all commercial refrigeration units at the Nashua, New Hampshire facility that normally contain more than 50 pounds of a class I or class II refrigerant. For each piece of equipment provide:

- A. The make, model and serial number of the equipment
- B. The type and quantity of refrigerant charged to the unit
- C. The annual leak rate for each piece of equipment

2. Provide a list of all commercial refrigeration units that have leaked any quantity of refrigerant since January 1, 2005. For each leak provide:

- A. The date the leak was discovered
- B. The date the leak was repaired
- C. The quantity of refrigerant added to the equipment
- D. The annual leak rate of the equipment after the repair

3. Provide a list of any commercial refrigeration units that have exceeded the refrigeration leak rate of 35% in any 12-month period since January 1, 2005.

4. State whether or not Costco has employed refrigeration repair technicians since January 1, 2005. If so, provide copies of all technician certifications required under 40 C.F.R. §82.161.

5. State whether or not Costco has used contractors to conduct repairs on the commercial refrigeration units since January 1, 2005. If so, provide the name and address of each contractor.

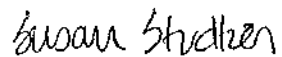
6. Provide a list of all refrigerant recovery and/or recycling equipment owned by Costco since January 1, 2005. For each piece of equipment provide the make, model and serial number of the equipment, and the date that the equipment was registered with EPA.

Be aware that if Costco does not provide the requested information in a timely manner, EPA may order it to comply and may assess monetary penalties under Section 113 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413. Federal law also establishes criminal penalties for providing false information to EPA. This letter is not subject to Office of Management and Budget review pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35.

Costco may, if desired, assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested, in the manner described by 40 C.F.R §2.203(b). Note that certain categories of information are not properly the subject of such a claim. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to Costco.

If you have any questions regarding this Reporting Requirement, please contact Environmental Engineer Abdi Mohamoud at (617) 918-1858, or have your attorney call Senior Enforcement Counsel Thomas Olivier at (617) 918-1737.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Studien".

Susan Studien, Director
Office of Environmental Stewardship

